

But Crisis Mentality Exists

No Gas Crunch Looms Here



Rotary Runners Are Off (More photos on page 3)

Walter Talley, Grand Champion

Running For The Medals

Walter Talley, the grand champion in Sunday's KM Rotary Club Run in which 236 runners participated finished the six mile course in 34 minutes, 35 seconds or an average of five minutes, 35 seconds per mile.

The Gaston County man, who is director of Gaston Runners Club, holds a record in the Boston Marathon where he crossed the finish line in two hours, 40 minutes.

Other overall winners were Jeff Waataja of Rock Hill, S.C. who completed the three mile race in 17 minutes, 12 seconds, and Cliff Carlton of Shelby who crossed the one-mile finish line in six minutes.

Neal White, nine-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Gene White and a fourth grader at West School, finished the one-mile run in the age one-12 category in seven minutes, 24 seconds. In the same division for young ladies, Tonja Weeks, daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Gerald Weeks of Kings Mountain, completed the one mile race in eight minutes, 42 seconds. Other winners in this age category were: boys - Patrick Boggan, second, seven minutes, 33 seconds, and Trent Sanders, third, seven minutes, 50 seconds. In the girls division, other winners were Becky Little of Norwood, second, nine minutes, 26 seconds, and Jennifer Carlton of Shelby, third, nine minutes, 33 seconds.

Among senior citizens who finished the big race was Charlottean Harold Holton, age 62, who finished the six mile race in 39 minutes, 22 seconds.

Other winners, all of whom received gold, silver and bronze medallions:

One Mile: ages 13-39: boys - Cliff Carlton, Shelby, six minutes; Cage Eiters, six miles, 11 seconds; Barry Human of Cramerton, six minutes, 17 seconds, third, girls, Elizabeth Herndon, first, six minutes, 47 seconds; Debbie Howard, Rock Hill, seven minutes, 11 seconds; and Connie Phifer, third, eight minutes, 55 seconds.

One mile, ages 40 and over: men - Art Kirstead, Gaffney, eight minutes, 48 seconds; Don Roark, eight minutes, 52 seconds; and Larry Hamrick, Sr., 10 minutes, 56 seconds; women - Sandra Champion, first, 12 minutes, 41 seconds.

Three mile: ages 1-10, Chad Plonk, 26 minutes, 50 seconds; Chris Plonk, 26 minutes, 51 seconds; and Lance Miller, Bolling Springs, 27 minutes, 33 seconds. Ages 11-16: Jeff Waataja, Rock Hill, 17 minutes, 12 seconds, first; George Patterson, Shelby, 18 minutes, six seconds, and David Martin, Blacksburg, 19 minutes, five seconds. Girls - Donna Guettler, Rock Hill, 26 minutes, two seconds; ages 17-22 - David Critch, Bolling Springs, 17 minutes, 31

seconds; first; Eddie Sanders, Rock Hill S.C., 18 minutes, 35 seconds, and Jerry Martin, Spartanburg, S.C. 18 minutes, 57 seconds; Women - Sandi Carpenter, Raleigh, 29 minutes, 23 seconds, and Wanda Cannon, Charlotte, 31 minutes, 48 seconds; ages 23-30 - George Perkins, Shelby, 17 minutes, 19 seconds, first; Don Wilborne, Thomasville, 17 minutes, 57 seconds; and Jimmy Boyd, Rock Hill, S.C., 18 minutes, 48 seconds; Women - Annabelle Kelly, Gastonia, 27 minutes, one second; Peggy Stafford, Belmont, 27 minutes, 38 seconds; and Kay Jolley, 29 minutes 25 seconds. Ages 31-39 - Raymond Estes, 35 minutes, four seconds; ages 40-49 - Ed Guettler, of Rock Hill, 18 minutes, 10 seconds; Henry Hunt of Shelby, 19 minutes, 29 seconds, and Richard Thompson, of Hickory, 24 minutes, nine seconds; and Women, Dr. Marilyn Richards of Hickory, 26 minutes, 20 seconds;

Bethware Alumni Meet

Bethware alumni who graduated during the years 1934-50 will hold the annual spring reunion picnic Sat., May 26th, at Bethware School Cafeteria.

Mrs. Ted Ledford, a member of the arrangements committee, said that former teachers are also invited to join alumni and the get-together. Picnic supper will be served at 7:30 p.m. to all alumni, their husbands, wives, and friends.

Class Reunion Set

The 1974 graduating class of Kings Mountain High School is planning their fifth reunion.

The dinner occasion is planned for Sat., June 2nd at 7 p.m. at the Kings Mountain Motor Inn.

All graduates and their spouses are invited and should contact Larry Hamrick, Jr. at 739-5405 or Debbie Bolin George at 739-8827 before May 28th for reservations.

Something Unique

A new Dimension Switchboard has recently been installed at the Kings Mountain Hospital, according to Gary Howard, Administrator.

The new switchboard is a solid state system which saves space, speeds operation of service and simplifies installation and maintenance.

The new Dimension Switchboard enables the attendant to restrict calls to a particular room quickly and easily. Outgoing calls can be registered simply and accurately.

This is the first Dimension Switchboard installed by Southern Bell Telephone Company in the Kings Mountain exchange.

Ages 50 and over, Pete Hayward, Hickory, 23 minutes, 52 seconds; Fred Robertson, Gastonia, 27 minutes, 26 seconds, and Joe Machnick, 28 minutes, 18 seconds.

Six Miles: Ages 1-10, no entries; 11-16, Paul Eckerd of Shelby, 41 minutes, 17 seconds; Mike Crowley of Charlotte, 41 minutes, 42 seconds; and Mitch Hooper, Forest City, 43 minutes, 12 seconds.

Girls, Edie Potter, 55 minutes, 33 seconds. Ages 17-22 - F. Simmons, Bolling Springs, 44 minutes, six seconds, and Tim Mullis, Charlotte, 46 minutes, 52 seconds. Women - Mary Hamrick, Shelby, 55 minutes, 53 seconds. Ages 23-30 - Robert Blakley, Shelby, 35 minutes, 32 seconds; Lloyd Rosdahl, Gastonia, 37 minutes, 34 seconds, and Fred Gore, Gastonia, 40 minutes, two seconds; Women - Juanita Talley, Gastonia, 49 minutes, 56 seconds; Terry Martin, Lattimore, 58 minutes, 38 seconds, and Donna Carlton, Shelby, 59 minutes, four seconds; Ages 31-39 - Walter Talley, Gastonia, 34 minutes, 35 seconds; Jerry Nofstger, Shelby, 36 minutes, 43 seconds, and Jim McHenry of Gastonia, 38 minutes, two seconds.

Ages 40-49 - Women - Peggy Lint, Fort Mill, 50 minutes, 41 seconds; Janet Berry of Shelby, 52 minutes, 46 seconds, and Beth Miller of Shelby, 52 minutes, 56 seconds; Ages 50-59 - Dave Eden of Gaffney, 35 minutes, 27 seconds; Jim Brown of Gastonia, 38 minutes, 46 seconds, and John Barton of Waxhaw, 43 minutes, 15 seconds, third; Women - Mary Metcalfe, Gastonia, 65 minutes, four seconds. Age 50 and over, Harold

St. Jude

Bike-A-Thon

Is Saturday

Second annual St. Jude Children's Hospital Bike-A-Thon is scheduled at Kings Mountain Senior High at 9 a.m. Sat., May 26.

The 10-mile course event is again chaired by Robert Dodge, who said the first event last year raised over \$4,000 locally for the hospital.

St. Jude's deals in research and treatment of catastrophic childhood diseases. Children are treated no matter the financial circumstances of the family.

Bikers are urged to obtain their own sponsors for the event by turning in lists of their sponsors.

A grand prize will be awarded the biker who raises the most money for St. Jude's.

Chairman Dodge said last year's event attracted over 100 people.

Holton, Charlotte, 39 minutes, 22 seconds, first; Ken Helms of Charlotte, 40 minutes, 56 seconds, and Ira Bumgardner of Kings Mountain, 46 minutes, 23 seconds.

Daredevil Ride

Set For Thursday

Johnny Sands, a professional stuntman for the late Elvis Presley, will perform for Kings Mountain area citizens next Thursday afternoon.

Fire Chief Gene Tignor said that members of the KM Fire Department have arranged for Sands to drive a city fire truck while blindfolded and with a hood over his head through the streets of Kings Mountain.

The "daredevil ride" begins at 5 p.m. Thursday in front of the Fire Department, proceed down Mountain St. and to Kings Mountain Plaza. Fire Chief Tignor will ride with Sands.

The fire truck will not travel on U.S. 74 but will remain on West Mountain, crossing the railroad tracks at Nation Chevrolet and traveling the Mountain St. route to the shopping center.

Californians are coping with a real gasoline crunch and restricted sales. No similar threat appears looming soon for Kings Mountain area citizens and the Carolinas.

But drivers seem to be picking up some of the crisis mentality, in spot checks with area gasoline stations.

Checks this week indicate that some motorists here may have stopped driving as much but most ask attendants to fill their tanks rather than \$5 worth at a time. And, at least one service station owner, Otis C. Falls, Jr., says his customers "Don't push for every drop in the tank and don't come back every day as is the case in some of the California situations". "We haven't panicked here", he added, "although some stations may be hurting at end of month when they receive gas allotments." Falls said he had a good allotment of gasoline at this season last year and expects the month of May to be a good month. He said self-service prices in the area trail about four to five cents for premium and unleaded and about five cents for regular. He estimated that prices here last week went up about one-half to a cent. Falls said that he feels gasoline supplies are adequate thus far but like other gasoline dealers in the area is unsure of what the future may hold.

Kings Mountain, unlike many towns in the Carolinas, has stations open on Sundays, including most self-service operations. Some stations appear to be closing a little earlier on weekdays. A Carolina Motor Club survey reveals that only 36 percent of North

Carolina stations and 32 percent of South Carolina stations are now open on Sunday. In addition, 46 percent of the country's stations are open after 8 p.m. on weekdays. In North and South Carolina stations are open after 8 p.m. on weekdays. In North and South Carolina slightly fewer-44 percent-are remaining open after 8 p.m. during the week. In North Carolina full-service premium averages 85.1 cents a gallon, unleaded 83 cents and regular 79.3. South Carolina motorists are paying an average of 88.6 per gallon for premium, 82.6 cents for unleaded and 79.2 for regular. The average price for diesel fuel is 70.1 cents per gallon in North Carolina and 73.2 cents in South Carolina. Nationally, it averages 78.5 cents a gallon. Since Apr. 26, according to the Carolina Motor Club, gas prices increased an average of one and one-half cents in North Carolina and 1.2 cents in South Carolina.

According to spokesmen for the 185,000 member Carolina Motor Club the energy pitch has prompted hundreds of telephone calls to the Charlotte offices daily from would-be vacationers and other travelers.

"Apprehension has gripped much of the traveling public when it comes to this fuel availability thing", says T. Ed Pickard, president of the club. "The fact of the matter is, to the best of our knowledge we still haven't had to tow anyone that has run out of gas due to a shortage. People read about the California situation and feel that the same thing is happening here. It's not."

The club suggests that motorists use common sense when traveling. They also give this advice: Begin looking for gas when your tank is half empty; buy gas as early in the day as possible; avoid trying to buy gas on Sundays when possible. The club points out to vacationers that gas is available on Sunday and late in the day, it's just more difficult to find. For beach and mountaineers, they advise motorists that in most instances the resort areas have made arrangements for gas to be available through a limited number of regular gas stations on Sunday.

A spokesman for Etna Oil Co. on U.S. 74 West said "Our allocations are the same and running out of gas is no problem. He said his supply of gasoline is good right now with no increase recently in prices. He guessed that the price of gasoline keeps climbing because of the shortages other distributors are experiencing.



Photo by Tom McIntyre

CAN HE DO IT?—Johnny Sands, a former movie stuntman, is getting ready to attempt to drive a fire truck from the fire department, down through town and out to the KM Plaza Shopping Center. He will try it

blindfolded and with a hood over his head. Shown with him are Fire Chief Gene Tignor, David King, Johnnie Caldwell and C.E. (Bud) Ware. The stunt drive is set for 5 p.m. Thursday.